THE OBVIOUS TELLS

in darkness

SONG FOR THE END

she makes ends meet
but she's still sick of this shit
as society crumbles
she stands on her feet
Trying to remember -
    that we is stronger than i

Remember the songs
We sang in our youth?
Tired cliches now seem so uncouth
Platitudes played out
On slogans and flags
But there's a reason
for the beliefs that we had

We can be what we believed!

I won't give up
No matter how hard they try
And I don't care if I'm unalived
cliches are trite
But there for a reason
I ain't young but i still believe in

What punk rock used to mean to me
Lessons learned, not just a scene
We preached equality and unity

Time to make it real
Prove it ain't a just spiel

Together we can't be fucking stopped.

YOUNG AND BEAUTIFUL

We were young and beautiful,
we didn't understand it
But you still can't stop us now
there ain't no time for reprimanding

For the days that we fucked up
and the nights that have we lost
Cause we're still here today
despite the overwhelming odds

We can't be stopped

By your rules or by your laws
Even in our darkest nights
we still believe the cause

For the kids who didn't make it
and the ones who were abrasive
But they got their shit together man,
and now they're making changes
For the artists and musicians
and the workers and the quitters
And the organizers and the fighters ,
queer kids on a mission

Like plants we'll fucking grow
thru the cracks and we will show
That you can not stop a dream
we keep the fight as we get old
And I'm overjoyed and zealous
when I see the kids rebel it's
Just another sign
things could be fine
we raised them right
their fight is mine

And I struggle to find beauty
in world that wants to use me
So today we make it thru the night
And hold your hand to see the morning light

I don't want to cling to a past romanticized
When the future needs us more than ever
Stand together, organize
But I can't deny my history
So please don't tell me that you miss me
I'm happy how I am now
Even when the heat is blistering

I keep going on
for a boy who used to long
For a change and for his friend back
for another fucking song

For a chance to be a girl
or a part of something more
So, I'll take on the world
for the folks that I adore

Life is beautiful
even when the world is cruel
I'm peculiar but I'm proud
Of the truth that it I've allowed

Myself

Taking on the future
making change and making art
Side by side with folks I love
Trying hard to do our fucking part

NOT IN OUR CITIES

Not in our cities
and not in our names
not on our watch
and not on our streets
not in our country
not under your king

abolish ICE and destroy the whole thing

Oh "we didn't vote for this"
but I saw the signs
held over your head
as you bought all his lies

And I can't comprehend
the hate in your heart
But we won't let this stand
and we won't let this start

SHUT IT DOWN
we take back these streets
SHUT IT DOWN
You see what I mean

FUCK ICE FUCK YOU
No one in cages
FUCK ICE FUCK YOU
extrajudicial exchanges

With them
or with me
With people you hate

Won't stop

That you think are the enemy

I can't believe
we need to say this whole thing
When taking in strangers was kind of the thing

That you taught me in bibles
and taught me in books
Matthew 25 the last time I looked

And somehow you're someone who's so full of hate

What the fuck
would your savior think

RIGHTS OF MAN

I don't understand
power over the rights of man
Won't recognize
I cede no authority

To those
who put profits over people
while they declare some illegal
Won't recognize
Or respect your authority

It's a service not business
Spend it for our health and fitness
Perpetuate
don't hesitate
futures matter

It's not a deficit
To raise these people out of shit
Why are the fuck are you
doing this undoing?!

Winner gets all
The rest take a fall
And yet they've bought it all
Trickle down was a theft
There's just nothing left
So we blame it instead
On the threats in your head

You want a god king
With the things that it brings
We're living on shoestrings
Cut back the fat
Shut down the state
Glorify hate
We've seen this play

There's a human cost
There are lives that will be lost
Turning back the clock
Another fucking century

Convinced your lies are true
Justifies the things you do
Cut the safety net
Haven't you just got it yet?

You or me us or them
Dividing us that was the plan
But you're so strong and independent
You don't need an understanding

All the things they take away
Future won't see the light of day
There's got to be
A better way a better way

Folks that are too bold
Are destroying what we've built
Without a single understanding
Of the things they are demanding

And I've got my problems too
With our trivial pursuits
Of power over people
Refusal to see each as an equal

But you make the fucking cuts
On the bombs and the guns
Not science food and safety
Things you can not see

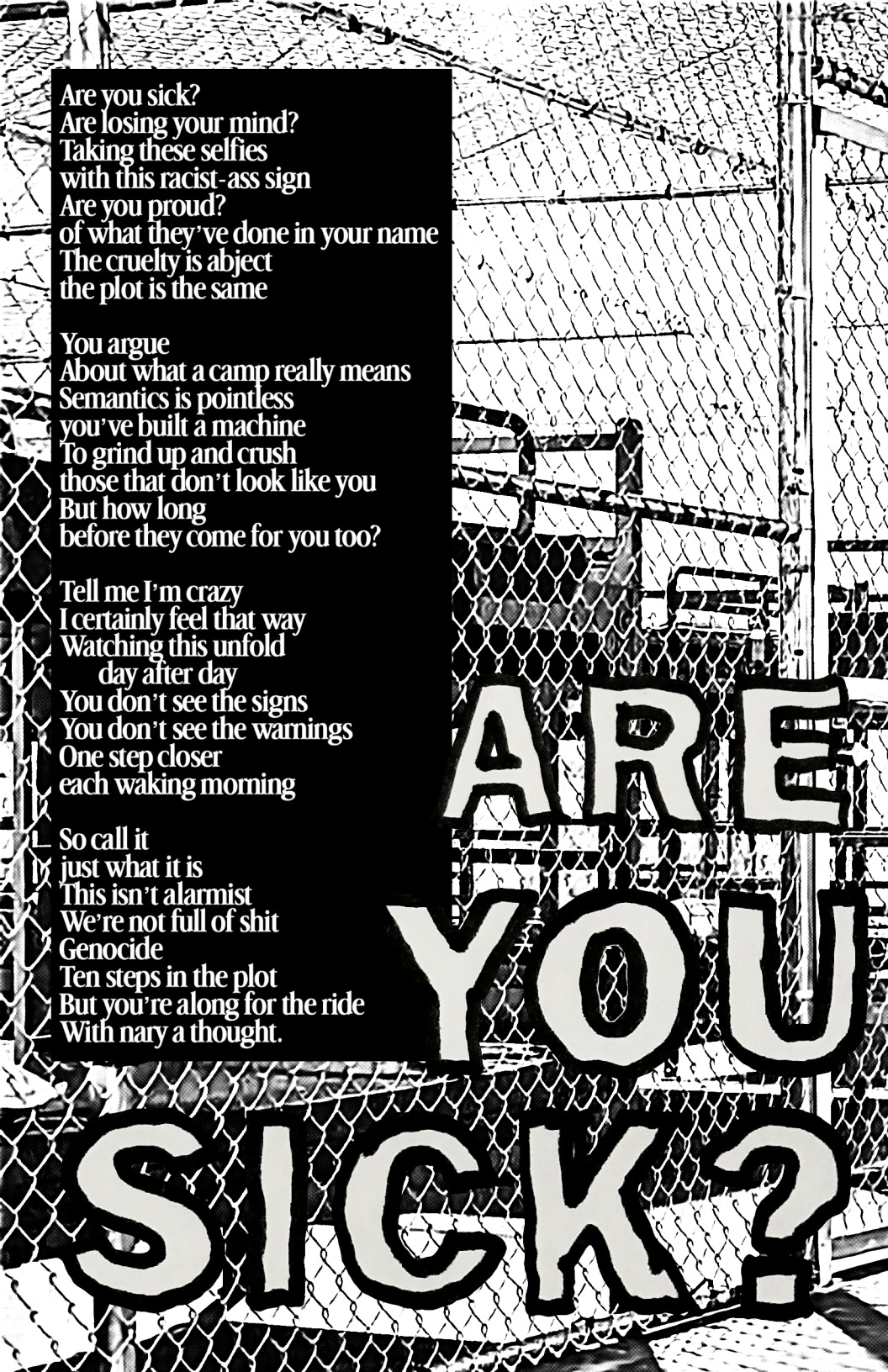
still have a reach
And I've got this belief
in me

That you're reaching the wrong conclusion
As you sow terror and confusion
That we can be a force for good
If you only understood

A little bit more for those at the top
Leaves a hundred below in the dust
I want empires to fall
Let the war machines all rust

But don't forget theres more of us
Than there ever was of you
You uncork this bottle
You will pay your fucking dues

You sold us bread and circus
Then laughed when
we asked for roses too
Destroy our dignity
We might just destroy you!


Are you sick?
Are losing your mind?
Taking these selfies
with this racist-ass sign
Are you proud?
of what they've done in your name
The cruelty is abject
the plot is the same

You argue
About what a camp really means
Semantics is pointless
you've built a machine
To grind up and crush
those that don't look like you
But how long
before they come for you too?

Tell me I'm crazy
I certainly feel that way
Watching this unfold
day after day
You don't see the signs
You don't see the warnings
One step closer
each waking morning

So call it
just what it is
This isn't alarmist
We're not full of shit
Genocide
Ten steps in the plot
But you're along for the ride
With nary a thought.
ARE
YOU
SICK?

I'm sitting here flummoxed
And I'm sick of this shit
And I'm over it all
I feel so ill equipped
Watching you whine
And watching you sit
On your ass
While you pass judgement and laugh

And I'm putting my foot down that's it
-I quit
I'm not shutting my mouth
When I hear
- this shit
You're closer to them than those at the top
You're not better than them and I want it to stop

The worst day
that you ever had
Without walls or a roof
in public and mad
Compound that pain
with the publics glaring disdain
Well the way that y'all "care"
just drives me insane
Don't tell me
You'd make a different choice
You don't
Know what
It's like

Gotta be perfect
To deserve your help
And you still kicked them out
And you still give em hell
Is it poor choices
Or your cruelty
It can be both
It doesn't matter to me

Everyone deserves a chance
To live their fucking lives
The cruelty's institutional
And I continue to despise
Your excuses and the news that
You've turned your fucking eyes
Tell me that you're better
And I tell you that's a lie

You won't let them have a tent
But just jacked up the fucking rents
Kick them off the street
Like it's a foe that you'll defeat
Refuse to see humanity
Lest someone gets more than they need
Pass judgment where's the fun in
Basic decency

But for the grace
of god go you
And the only failure
Is that we've ended up standing right here
Problems of our own creation
We reap what we sow
I don't claim to have the answer
But this much I know
We don't abandon our own

STRONGER THAN

You think it's a sign weakness
But we are strong
I walk with my head held high
And in my heart beats to a song

That you couldn't believe if given the chance
A mile in our shoes and you'd meet your end

We fend off your slings and arrows with aplomb
And we scream 'til the end,
louder than a bomb
Call us faggots call us queens
Don't believe that we're strong
The fact that we're still standing just proves you wrong

We're braver than you we do the things that you won't
I took my life in my hands and came out the other end
We smashed your norms and we live as threat
And try as you might you haven't stopped us yet

You said you couldn't do this if you tried it
Does it scare you? Are you afraid you might like it?
If gender was a game without any rules
Just try being yourself and see what you do

Does it open your eyes to take a look at us?
I guarantee you can do it you just needed the push
Chase your heart - cause there's not much left
The world burns around us but at least you're not dead

Don't tell me I'm brave for living my life
Take stand and make easier, join our side
You don't need to be a gender revolutionary
You just need to have the heart to fucking see

That we aren't a threat
There's nothing to fear
You can't kill us, we've always been here
You tell us we're weak but we're also a threat
Stop a listen to yourself - do you get it yet?

HOWL AT THE MOON

I want to howl at the moon
I want to take back the street
I want to build my own home
I want to smash the concrete
I want to feel the air in my lungs
And the ground under my feet
I want to quell these urges
And know what that means

All i wanted is love
All I wanted was safety
A proud life to live
Things you can't take away from me
Cause the only things that ever had meaning to me
Was the beat of our hearts and the breaths in-between

I wanted a beautiful life was it too much to ask
I feel like we're drowning
Come up for air and we gasp
When will the horrors recede do we get a pause
I take a fucking break and they're sharpening their claws

On our backs

All my life I've worn my heart on my sleeve
With a chip on my shoulder as we struggle to breath
You make progress - and then they put us down
But for a brief shining moment we had it all figured out.

I fought my demons and I fixed my life
I tore down the walls, became a woman and a wife
Fought the voices in my head but the struggle goes on
When they finally shut up who writes the songs

(Bass only part)
Take a breath,
breathe it in
watch your pulse
do it again
you're still here
you're my friend
take a breath,
breathe it in

Resistance is breathing
And existence is beautiful
That's the best that I got
Refuse to believe that it's futile and
I know that it's trite
But we'll keep on living
Cliche for a reason
So I'll keep on giving

These platitudes
Despite all the attitudes
Take a bite at our hearts
They're going to spit what they chewed

Cause we're gristly and tough
oh they made us rough
Fighting each day it's just never enough

And I feel it
Each day as I grasp at healing
And fuck the part of me just feeling
Like earnestness
isn't deserving
it's just
I'm learning it

so breathe in
before taking a stand and
no you don't stop
just cause they're reprimanding
without understanding

The beauty in life
that we are commanding

My friends and my allies my family and my lover
They can't stop us all now that we've got each other
With one hand in mine and the other a fist
Taking a swing at a chance we won't miss.

CONTINGENCIES

Deadnaming Caitlyn
ain't the fucking flex you think
just shows that your acceptance
is only just contingent

on approval of our methods
or our fucking use to you
Oh we're only women when convenient
oh we haven't earned our due

If it can be taken
Away

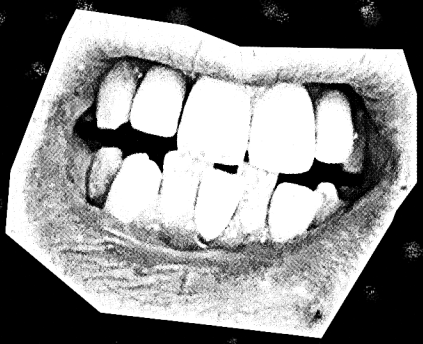
then you don't believe a thing

I hear the words you fucking say
And the choices that you make

I can't believe you

when you claim you're on my side
If acceptance is conditional
It's just another lie

Remember who can hear you
when you open up your mouth
The asshole's aren't insulted
But your friends now know their worth



If it can be taken
Away

then you don't believe a thing

You preach acceptance
But body shame these creeps
When its the choices that they made
That are more deserving of disdain

Respect us all
Not just the gals you want to screw
If acceptance can be taken
Then I just can't believe you

Cause there's something more to hate
then the things that are innate
and if your approval is contingent
Then your allyship's malignant

If it can be taken away
Then you don't believe a fucking thing.
Conditional acceptance
Is just another form of hate
Respect us all
not just the ones you wanna to screw

PROPAGANDA OF THE DEED

"propaganda of the deed
is looking better ever day but watch your
fucking mouth
be careful what you say"

Scrawled in jagged ink on a
yellowed notebook page
You see, I can't really recommend a brick
I'm of a certain age

where I want to say the words
and I want to do the act
But I can't go to jail you see
I've got this aching back

A tranny on the concrete floors
for a quarter century
The factory steals your ideals
whats that say bout me

It's an origin story
it's a gritty reboot
What the fuck
Radicalized you?

When you realize some don't care
And some will always stare
So make your peace
And you stand with the least of us

They reap what they sow
And the rest of us grow
They made us this way
A natural reaction to the hate

If you refuse to see
Our humanity
Don't be surprised
When somebody dies

Oh

but I've been screaming punk rock
since ninety ninety four
Bristled teenage closet case
bangs her head against the door

The first time they called me fag
Was nineteen ninety two
Took a while before I swung back
What's a girl supposed to do

But it hasn't changed a thing
And no one listens anyway
The world just marches on
Another punk goes old and grey

This is what we called a sellout
And sometimes life's too hard
Paid for that donation with a fucking debit card

So I'm remembering a phrase and I'm pointing to
myself
And I'm struggling every day to
Do my best to help

So let's live up to our patches,
Our stickers, shirts and flags
'Cause every breath's An Action

And you cannot kill this fag.

Every breath's an action
every breath a fucking action

Every breath's an action
every breath a fucking action

We don't give them a chance
Don't give them satisfaction

They can't kill us all
They can't kill us all

PARANOIA

Paranoia paranoia
But I think that's the point
Weaponized their disdain
To wear down our will to remain

It's abject cruelty
It's an affront on the senses
Psychological warfare
Do you understand what our life is

They raised more dollars
Than we have bodies
How do you not let this grind you down?
Every stare's dagger
Every time I hear a sound
I turn around

I feel like I'm losing my mind

I've stayed out of trouble
And I try so fucking hard
Cause I know what happens to girls like me
When we get fucking caught

Was that their plan all along
It's hard not to believe
When you've gone from scapegoat to enemy
Five minutes hate against me?
Am I fucking crazy
They
Tried
To
Make
Me
Lose
My
Mind
I think that's the point
It's an attack on my sanity
Feel like I'm losing my mind

You tell me it's all in my head
But girls wind up dead
And I feel like I'm losing my mind

My heart beats faster
I turn my headphones off
My steps get quicker
And my alarms go off
If it keeps coming
I won't be able to stop
I can't go outside
I can't go for a walk

You don't believe our stories
You don't believe our lives
How do I make you
open up your fucking eyes

It's all designed as terror
Have you ever seen a sign?
Aimed at your existence
and calling you a lie?

How do I go on
How do I stay strong
When there's people that want me dead or worse
When society
just seems like a fucking curse

I've got a right to be hostile
I've got a right to lose it a little bit
I've got a right to be afraid
Cause no one gives a shit

I feel like I'm losing my mind

I think that's the point
I feel like I'm losing my mind
And I think that's the point
I feel like I'm losing my mind
And I think that's the point

I still hear their voices and stares
Even when I know that they're not there
I feel like I'm losing my mind
I feel like I'm losing my mind

You tell me I'm paranoid
Like I don't know that shit
Feel like I'm losing my mind

Gaslight light me again
It's just in my head
But I've seen the fucking signs

I pocket my fear
And I can't fight back
I don't know how to survive an attack
I've been groped
my friends been beaten
Hollered and spit at
Some girls are even
Dead

RED AND WHITE, BLACK AND GREEN

Seventy five years just wasn't
enough?
Add another slash
watch the count go up

Make it make sense
explain it to me
What part of your peace
denies humanity

And these words get twisted
and somehow I missed it
The hatred professed
in this resistance

How what I said
meant what you claimed
The things that we've seen
and the things you've explained
Away

How do you not understand
Resistance for homelands

How are you not just incensed
At the things that we've witnessed

And we sit here in the west
letting it happen in our names
being purposefully mislead
and taught to take the blame

for failures here at home
You wouldn't draw the line
at goddamn genocide
How can I trust you

What is this illness?
Who's god would ever will this?

How could they have asked
for whatever this is
Not a fucking election
since they were kids

And here on our soil we turn a blind eye
to what's done in our fucking names
With horrifying detachment
They treat this just like a game

Now nabbing them off of the streets
With tricks you said
we'd never bring home

But I've got to be perfect
deny the violence
despite the inch you give
you just get silenced

I don't understand your obsession
with occupation and oppression

And what did you expect
can't get blood from a stone
But if I give them grace
I'm asked to atone
There's sickening sort
of new double standard
We can kill their kids
but they can't get mad less

there's hell to pay
and the score gets reset
But we can't see why
they resist being kept
Seventy five years
is fucking enough
Stop this madness
it was always too much

AKAI
MPD218
Punk
Fuck